DECEMBER
1951

Cumorah's Southern Messenger

Christmas Message

THE twelve short months of the year 1951 are all but gone, however, the memory of the events within them will continue to linger with us. All have experienced the bitter and the sweet, for such is the plan of God. Our comforting assurance is that these experiences will prepare us for the life to come, for we are all heirs to eternal salvation through the Atonement of Jesus Christ. His gift to the world was the promise of immortality to all mankind, and eternal life to those who would abide His Celestial laws.

The age-old tradition of giving during the Christmas season affords us an opportunity, in a small way, to repay our Father in Heaven for the gift of His Only Begotten Son. This was a gift inspired by love, and greatly exceeds the temporal gifts of a selfish world. We would do well to follow a similar pattern, bestowing our greetings in like manner during the Christmas season.

Today neatly arranged displays of cards and toys fill the shop windows, and colourful advertising is at an all-time high for the festive season. The true meaning of Christmas seems to be lost by many as the mad rush for ribbon and tinsel continues. Few stop to realize that when the flowers have wilted and the toys have worn out; when the sweets have been eaten and the new clothes have lost their appeal, that it is the thought behind the gift that really counts. Certainly it is the gifts of thoughtfulness, companionship, and genuine interest in the affairs of others that will last throughout the entire year. Tangible things pass away, but the intangible, spiritual gifts remain with us, and are appreciated even more as the years pass.

The gift of a small child to its mother on Christmas Day is worth more than its value in pounds, shillings and pence. The fancy paper with the red and green trimming represents many weeks of careful planning. Included in the package are many things that the people of the world would not be able to see, hear, or touch. The most important contents could only be perceived through the sense of feeling by one who reciprocated that love and devotion. The actions of those we hold dear speak louder than words, which often are but vain promises of deeds left undone. Thoughts are greater than things for they have stemmed from a higher source and are not confined to the limits of a physical world.

It was an old Chinese sage who said, "The more we give to others, the more we are increased." Sympathy, understanding, encouragement, and humour, when given away become even more firmly woven into the character of the giver. Parents who take an additional interest in the day-to-day activities of their children, will receive added respect and admiration from them. Likewise, the whole family unit can achieve greater solidarity when mother and daughter, father and son, brother and sister, have been successful in putting this truth into daily practice. Gifts of help and companionship are easy to give and are so rich in their returns.

Although Mary, the mother of Jesus, was privileged to give birth to the Saviour of the World and receive that joy and satisfaction, she also had to experience untold mental anguish and sorrow at the time of His crucifixion. Her reward did not come in this life, nor did she expect any recompenses. The great motivating force in her life was her inner desire to serve others and to assist in bringing the great plan of redemption to a triumphant conclusion.

May the spirit of Christ-like giving fill your hearts this Christmas season that you may receive lasting happiness through knowing that it is equally blessed to give and to receive.

THE MISSION PRESIDENCY

South African Mission Missionaries' Convention

PROGRAM OF EVENTS
December 22 — December 30, 1951

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	LEADERS
Sat. 22		Arrival of missionaries and assignment to quarters	
	3—7 p.m.	Registration at Ramah. (Have passport, ticket, etc.)	W. Hoggan
	7—9 p.m.	Welcome by Mission Presidency. President Evan P. Wright, Sister Jean D. Wright, President Thomas Wilson, President Blaine L. Hudson.	D. Manning
	9—10 p.m.	Class: "Rules and regulations."	G. Benson
Sun. 23	10 a.m.	Mission Conference Service	
	3 p.m.	Mission Conference Service (All at Ramah)	
	7 p.m.	Mission Conference Service	
Mon. 24	9—10 a.m.	Class: "Tracting"	J. Whiting
	10—11 a.m.	Class: "Chain Contacts"	W. Glenn
	11—12 a.m.	Class: "Missionary Reports"	D. Martin
	12.30	Lunch (Served at Ramah)	
	2—3 p.m.	Class: "Etiquette"	Sister J. Wright
	3—4 p.m.	Class: "Speech"	V. Albright
	4—5 p.m.	Class: "Daily Missionary Program"	R. T. Clark
	7.30—10 p.m.	Christmas Party	D. Martin
Tues. 25	10.00 a.m.	Christmas Service at Ramah .. .. .. (The remainder of the day will be spent in the homes of the Saints for Christmas dinner. Free time to visit or practice skits.)	L. Casper, B. Petersen
Wed. 26		**Missionaries, District and Branch Presidents and Clerks.**	
	9—10 a.m.	Class: "Financial Reports"	D. Hogan
	10—11 a.m.	Class: "Statistical Reports"	B. Hudson
	11—12 a.m.	Class: "S.A.1 forms, Records"	R. Winters
	12.30	Lunch (Served at Ramah)	
	2—4 p.m.	Class: "Genealogy"—(Sis. Halse, Elders Hoggan and Clark)	
	2—3 p.m.	Class: "Member Missionaries' Relations" ..	G. Hall, G. Ganter
	3—4 p.m.	Class: "Church Gov't. and Procedure"	I. C. Louw, E. P. Wright
	4—4:30 p.m.	Class: "C.S.M. and History"	G. Owen
	4.30—5 p.m.	Class: "Mission Building Program"	M. Halse, E. P. Wright
	7—8 p.m.	Class: "Priesthood and Branch Teaching" ..	W. Brummer, B. Hudson
	8—10 p.m.	Class: "Auxiliaries" F. Donly, Sister Wright (R. S.), R. Winters (MIA, S.S.)	
Thurs. 27	9—10 a.m.	Class: "Proselyting Plan, Cottage Meetings" ..	W. Allen
	10—11 a.m.	Class: "Visual Aids"	R. Pace
	11—12 a.m.	Class: "Authority, Mission Officers, Jr.-Sr. Companion"	J. Parker
	12.30	Lunch	
	2—3 p.m.	Class: "Re-organized Church"	D. Baxter, M. Nichols
	3—3:30 p.m.	Class: "Health"	D. Metcalf
	3:30—4 p.m.	Class: "Study and Literature"	G. Peck
	4—5 p.m.	Class: "South African Culture"	G. Young
	8:00 p.m.	Concert.	
Fri. 28		Testimony bearing at all three meetings. (9:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.).	
Sat. 29	8—10 a.m.	Questions and Answers	L. Miller, N. Jones, M. Reynolds, D. Talbot
	10—12 a.m.	Summary of Convention by Mission Presidency	
	8:00 p.m.	Banquet.	
Sun. 30	10:00 a.m.	Mission Conference Service (Ramah)	
	3:00 p.m.	Mission Conference Service (Ramah)	
	7:00 p.m.	Mission Conference Service. (This meeting will be held in the Kensington Hall on Roberts St., Kensington.)	

— Departure of Missionaries —

ANNUAL ELDER'S CONVENTION

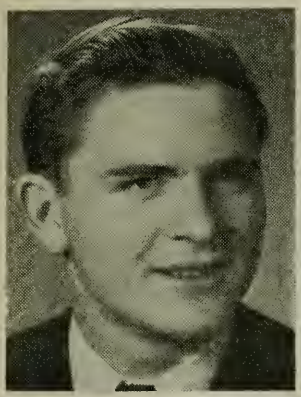
Mission Presidency
Pres. Wilson Pres. Wright Pres. Hudson

Jean D. Wright
Mission Relief
Society President

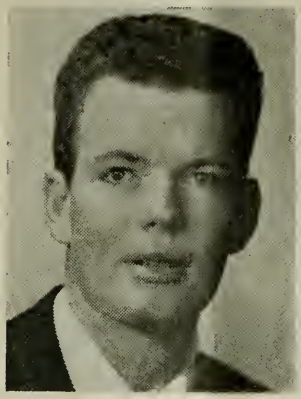
Douglass

Barbara Jean

Evan J.

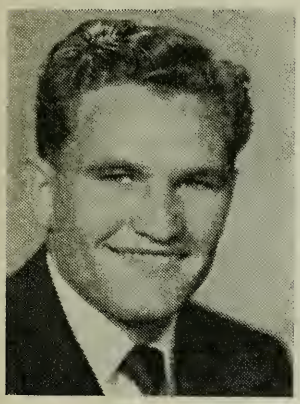


Elder Hogan
Mission Secretary

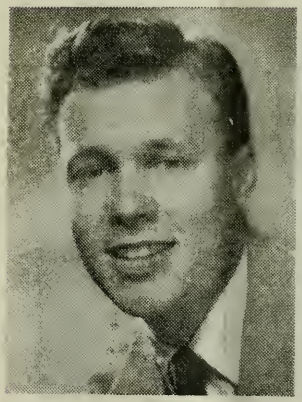


Elder Owen
Mission Historian

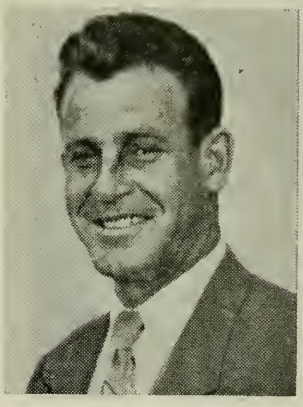
Elder Winters
Mission Supervisor
of Auxiliaries



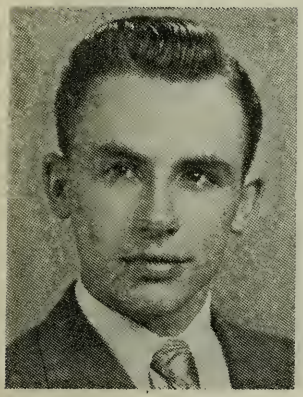
Elder Miller
Supervising Elder,
Cape



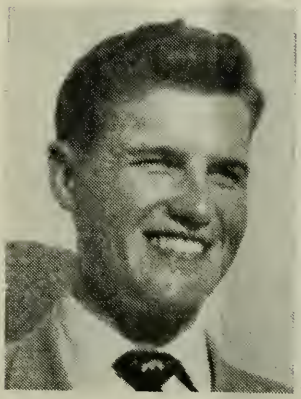
Elder Albright
Supervising Elder
Transvaal



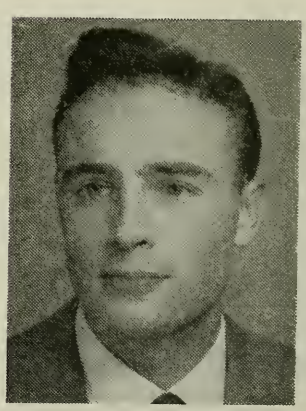
Elder Whiting
Supervising Elder
Bloemfontein



Elder McKay
Supervising Elder
Durban



Elder Clark
Supervising Elder
Port Elizabeth



Elder Peck
Supervising Elder
East London

Elder Parker
Supervising Elder
Bulawayo

Elder Hall
Supervising Elder
Salisbury

Elder Glenn
Supervising Elder
Northern Rhodesia

Elder Hoggan
Mission Office
Genealogy Dept.

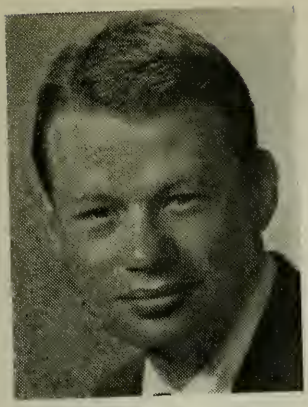
Elder Clark
Mission Office
Genealogy Dept.

Elder Martin
Private Secretary
To Mission President

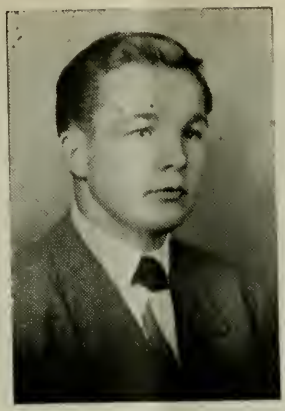
Elder Benson
Cape

Elder Cooper
Cape

Elder Jones
Cape



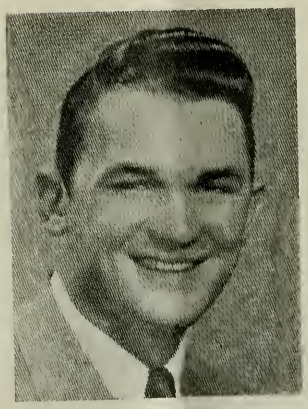
Elder Hulbert
Cape



Elder Hansen
Cape

Elder Crabtree
Cape

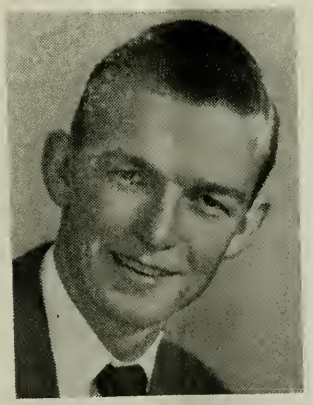
Elder Squire
Cape



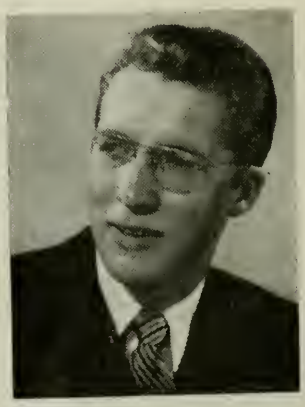
Elder Manning
Cape

Elder Baxter
Cape

Elder Pace
Transvaal



Elder Ellsworth
Transvaal



Elder Peterson
Transvaal

Elder Bullock
Transvaal

Elder Nichols
Transvaal

Elder Moss
Transvaal

Elder Stockdale
Transvaal

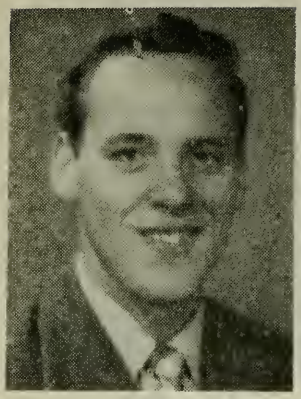
Elder Wursten
Transvaal

Elder Dutson
Transvaal

Elder Heilbut
Transvaal

Elder Mendenhall
Transvaal

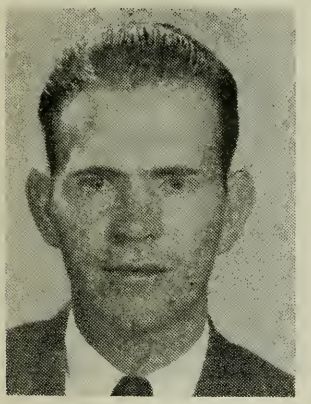
Elder Roberts
Transvaal



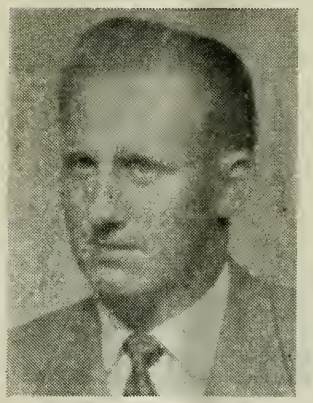
Elder Sherwood
Transvaal

Elder Johnson
Transvaal

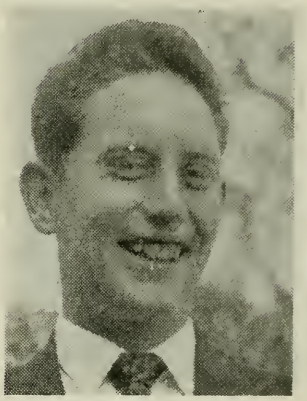
Elder Metcalf
Transvaal



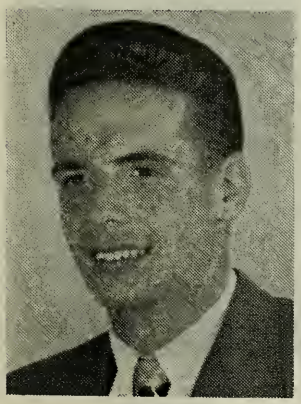
Elder Allen
Transvaal



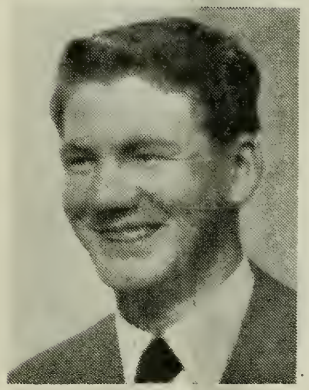
Elder Rasmussen
Transvaal



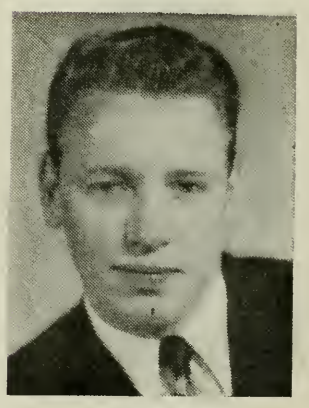
Elder Harrison
Transvaal



Elder Prince
Transvaal



Elder Leavitt
Durban



Elder Reynolds
Durban

Elder Young
Bloemfontein

Elder Trimble
Bloemfontein

Elder Bush
Bloemfontein

Elder Slater
East London

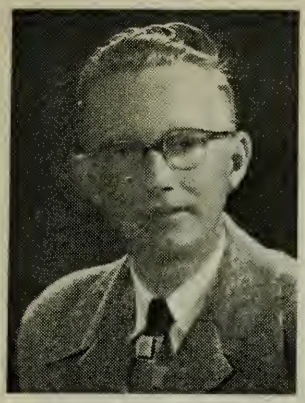
Elder Wilson
Port Elizabeth

Elder Coon
Salisbury

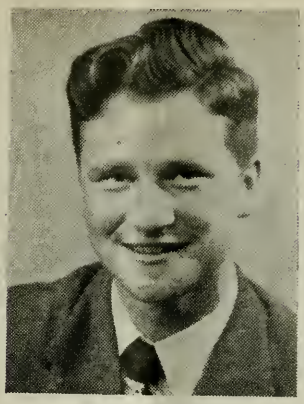
Elder Horne
Salisbury

Elder Holman
Salisbury

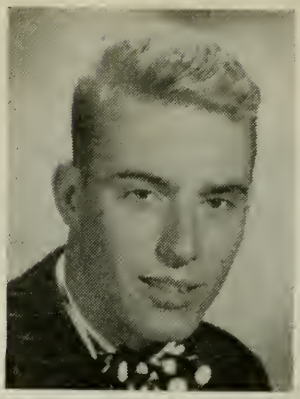
Elder Palmer
Umtali



Elder Casper
Umtali



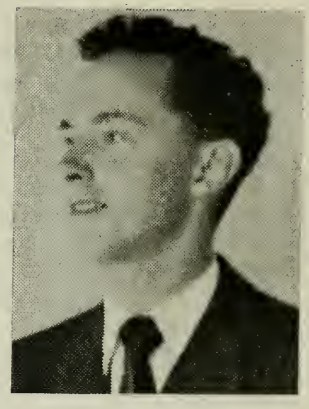
Elder Murray
Bulawayo



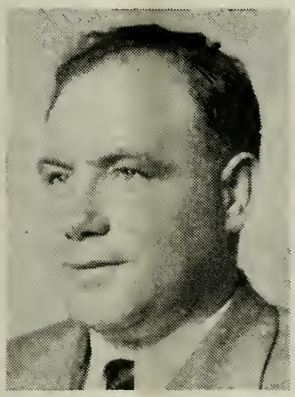
Elder Stucki
Bulawayo

Elder Thompson
Bulawayo

Elder Wiscomb
Ndola

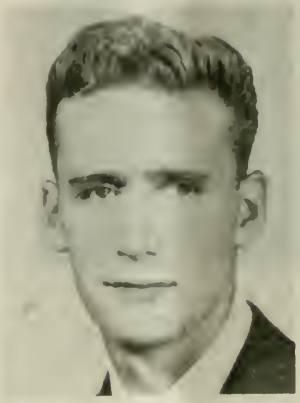


Elder Falck
Luanshya



Elder Talbot
Ndola

Departures. . .



On November 23rd, Elders Tharin J. Bigler, Shelby Ronald Lisbonbee, and James D. Gardner were honourably released and sailed for home aboard the "Athlone Castle." Elder Bigler has laboured in Pinelands, Bellville, Vereeniging, Salisbury, and in Johannesburg as the Supervising Elder of the Transvaal District. Elder Lisbonee has laboured in Pinelands, Springs, as one of the Genealogy Elders in the Mission office, and in Port Elizabeth as the Supervising Elder there and President of the Port Elizabeth Branch. Elder Gardner laboured in Pinelands, Orange Grove, Vereeniging, also as one of the Genealogical Elders in the Mission Office; East London, where he served as Branch President; and as Supervising Elder and Branch President of the Bulawayo Branch in Southern Rhodesia.

Statistics . . .

BLESSINGS

June Theresa Hayden the daughter of Lozzy Edward and Gwendoline Hayden was blessed in Johannesburg on the 7th of October by Norman G. Muir.

Michael Robert Preston White the son of David and Joyce White of Durban was blessed by Elder Monroe Gunn McKay on the 4th of November in Durban.

Sally Ann White the daughter of David and Joyce White was blessed in Durban by Elder Monroe Gunn McKay on the 4th of November.

David John Seager the son of John and Joan Seager of Durban was blessed by Elder Monroe Gunn McKay in Durban on the 4th of November.

Harold Albert Smith the son of Frank and Guiditta Smith was blessed in Bellville on the 4th of November by Elder Gerald Hulbert.

Glenn Duncan-Evan Ninow the son of Albert and Louise Ninow was blessed by Daniel A. Cherrett in the Mowbray Branch on the 11th of November.

BAPTISMS.

Helena Magdalena Visser was baptized in Johannesburg on the 21st of October by Elder Berton E. Johnson and was confirmed on that same day by Elder Eugene R. Holman.

Joan Amy Seager was baptized in Durban on the 27th of October by Elder Donald E. Toomey and was confirmed that same day by Elder Richard L. Wilson.

Ronald Manders was baptized and confirmed in the city of Umtali, Southern Rhodesia on the 26th of August, by Elder Rodney T. Clark.

Claire Manders was baptized in Umtali by Elder Rodney T. Clark on the 26th of August and was confirmed on the same day by Elder Clark.

Linda Visser was baptized in Johannesburg on the 21st of October by Elder Tharin J. Bigler and was confirmed on that same day by Elder Berton E. Johnson.

CAPE DISTRICT
MOWBRAY BRANCH

Reported by Beatrice E. Smith.

The month's happenings commence with the District Conference which was held at Mowbray, on the 28th of October. There were morning, afternoon, and evening sessions, all of which were great spiritual treats. It is impossible to report on all who took part in the various programmes, but an especial emphasis was laid on the participation of the very young folk in the morning and afternoon services. Little ones from "Cumorah," Bellville, Pinelands and Epping Gardens all took part. It was grand to see how much progress these little ones are making in the teachings of the Gospel. There were items from the choir at the morning and evening sessions. The choir was conducted by Brother Sam Rayner and the soloist was Sister Beatrice Julyan.

There has been rather a lot of illness during the month. Brother John Wilson was unable to sing at Conference because he was a victim of the fashionable "flue." Brother Alwyn Hubert and Brother Keith Hubert have both been ill. Sister Eleanor Cherrett has broken her ankle. Sister Ann Banfield was also on the sick-list. We pray that all of these dear ones may soon be restored to their usual good health.

The M.I.A. celebrated the Hallowe'en with a Braaivleis at Mr. Basil Henecke's farm at Brackenfel. Cars and a lorry made the journey and arrived as "hungry as the hunters" at the farm, where the fires were nicely banked down for the traditional South African evening picnic. Soon the aroma of grilling boerewors and chops set the appetites of the supperless guests on edge. It was a jolly party and we thank Mr. and Mrs. Henecke for allowing us to hold this function on their premises.

Brother Eric Bibb has returned from Port Elizabeth. But that is not the most important item of his news! Ikona! He is in the highlights for a grander reason than that. No sooner was he home than he bought a ring for Sister Beta Pettersen. We wish these two young people the greatest of all joy, for they will share the happiness of the Gospel in their life together.

The Relief Society Bazaar was held on the 3rd November. For days beforehand the Relief Society Sisters had been directing the erection of stalls and decorating them. The hall looked Brother Shelver's toy stall, which was like a as though it had become an old-fashioned fair on the loveliest morning of the Cape spring. There were wares to tempt all from the youngest to the oldest. Lunches were served at noon, and the bazaar was officially opened by President Wright at 2 o'clock. There were plenty of shoppers for the bargains that were so lavishly displayed. Crowds of tiny folk gathered around scene from one of the Disney cartoons with its array of bright felt toys (these were made by Brother Shelver himself). It was a very warm day, and Brothers Cherrett and Fourie did a roaring trade at the ice-cream and cool drinks booth. Not only were people busy shopping, but there was a constant bumping into old acquaintances and the bazaar became a great social occasion. Everybody appeared to be having a good time. Business was brisk at all the stalls, and there was a ready sale for the provisions and drapery that there were to be had. Bellville Relief Society and Pinelands Relief Society each had its own stall — quite a self-contained miniature of the bazaar, in fact. Mowbray Relief Society realized an amount of over two hundred pounds — a pretty good return on half a day's sale. In the evening, there was a film-show, when the picture "One Touch of Venus" attracted quite a large crowd. The Relief Society Sisters wish to thank all who contributed goods or, in any way, helped to make this bazaar an outstanding success.

The Primary had charge of proceedings on November 4th. From the first item of their programme to the last, we felt that there was a wonderful truth in the Scriptural words:—"A little child shall lead them." The items were well-produced and we are indebted to the Primary Mother and her helpers for a fine service. The Mission Primary Mother, Sister Fourie, was present on this occasion and we were delighted to hear from her after the children's programme was done. President Wright expressed the feelings of all of us, when he paid her an especial tribute in his remarks.

After the service President Wright presented certificates to the Boy Scouts. I'm sure that the hearts of the parents were filled with pride as each lad walked to the stand to receive his award.

We have enjoyed making the acquaintance of Brother Kenneth Muir whose ship was at Cape Town for a few days.

The M.I.A. had a "gramophone hop" on Saturday the 10th. Those who were present enjoyed the dancing, and the companionship. We need more of these social "get-togthers," so should do our best to support all such efforts.

The "spotlight" is on sport at "Cumorah" this season. Our first baseball team is achieving wonders — so far they have lost only one game. The second team is not entirely a victorious one, but they are having lots of fun. The girls of the softball side are keen on their practices and hope to win their first match in the very near uture. The girls held a cake-sale on the 17th and made nearly four pounds to swell their funds. Good luck to all of them.

The Mutual has certainly been stepping-out this month. On the 13th they held a "games evening" at Rhodes Memorial. Those energetic

young folk climbed to the top of the monument and then had enough stamina to indulge in "twos and threes" and other strenuous games. We are glad to report that the exercise did them a world of good.

Sister Sheila Bibb and David are leaving for Pretoria to join Brother Lionel and Alan. The Mutual held a farewell party for her on November 20th. This party was in the nature of a "Hanky-shower." We trust that the hankies will not all be needed to dry tears as she leaves Cape Town. We feel sure that Sheila will be a fine addition to the membership in the Transvaal, for she has been one of our leading spirits in this branch. We pray that the Lionel Bibb family will be exceedingly blessed in their new sphere.

BELLVILLE BRANCH
Reported by Dorathea Storey.

The Bellville Relief Society had a stall at the annual Bazaar held at Cumorah on the 3rd of November. The Branch thanks the Jakins family and the Halse family for the produce stall. They did exceptionally well this year. The Sisters all put their best efforts into it.

Brother Edwin Jakins has gone to Grahamstown for a short holiday.

BULAWAYO BRANCH
Reported by Madge West

Among the words most frequently used by members of this Branch are "hello" and "goodbye." This month's farewell was to very popular Elder Gardner who left with our sincere thanks and good wishes. Our welcome is to Elder Murray who, we hope, will be very happy in his work amongst us.

There is a spirit of real friendship and love predominant at our meetings, which is inspiring, especially in a very small Branch. We are cooperative and hope to gain much more strength in this land through our united efforts.

BLOEMFONTEIN BRANCH
Reported by Pat Murphy

Most of the activity here in the Branch this month has been centered around the raising of funds for our prospective chapel. A cake sale has been held so far and now we are all busy with various projects to raise money. Sister Barbara Wrench spends almost her entire week making pies to sell to the working people. Everyone is fine and are all very busy in Branch activities.

LUANSHYA BRANCH
Reported by Jeanne Charsley

We are very sorry to lose our spiritual giant Elder Dale Talbot to N'Dola. His humility and sincerity endeared him to us one and all.

Many of the members have been ill during the month and have been restored to health by the administration of the Elders.

The highlight of the month was the Primary Social which, at the request of the children, was held on November 5th. It began with a braaivleis at 5.30 p.m., after which baskets of home-made sweets were sold. (The baskets had been made by the children.) The collective fireworks of the Branch made a brilliant display heartily enjoyed by both children and fathers. After the fireworks, games were played by parents and children together. When the parents needed a rest they were entertained by the children with recitations, songs, and dances. The 47 people present enjoyed the evening thoroughly.

We are very pleased to welcome Elder Glenn and hope that he will enjoy his stay in Northern Rhodesia.

The sacrament meeting allotted to the Primary was a great success. It makes the heart glad to see the officers and teachers of tomorrow standing before the congregation doing their duty so courageously. The future of the Church is safe in these little hands.

The Luanshya Branch takes pleasure in announcing, with the exception of Brother Ernest Terblanche, that they will spend their leave at Humewood, Port Elizabeth, en masse, from December 15th to January 15th. Port Elizabeth Branch, here we come!

TRANSVAAL DISTRICT
RAMAH BRANCH
Reported by Mary Millan Stark.

The fund raising efforts of the Ramah Branch Building Fund Committee continue to provide entertainment and activity for the Branch and recent events have included a cinema show (by kind permission of Mr. Port), a Supper-Concert, Cake Sales, and at present a series of exhibitions and lessons in the popular Square Dancing are being held in the Phyllencha Hall every Wednesday night with great success. The latter have been arranged by Elders Peterson and Ellsworth and the music is provided by the latter on his banjo, sometimes accompanied by Elder Sherwood. Members are busily engaged on preparations for the Utility Sale and Carnival Dance to be held on 1st December.

Congratulations to Jean and Reg. Muller, at present in Queenstown, on the birth of a daughter.

The Primary Mother, Sister Macadams, is to be commended with her assistants for the very worthy programme sponsored on the first Sunday night of the month. The theme of "Home" was well handled in song and verse by the Primary children.

The M.I.A. has closed its formal lesson sessions but continues to provide entertainment and recreation for its members in the form of picnics, swimming parties, square dancing, and a water melon feast at the Zoo Lake.

In order to insure that the Sunday School will be able to have its annual Christmas Tree for the children, the officers organised a Concert at Ramah at which Brother Tex Smith ably fulfilled the role of compère.

The Branch has missed the presence of Sisters Kitty, Joy and Signe Smith, and the twins who have gone to the Coast on holiday. Our sympathy is extended to all those on the sick list including Brother Hubert, Sister Yvonne Matthews and Brother Stark, the latter having just completed his thirteenth week in hospital.

EAST LONDON DISTRICT AND BRANCH
Reported by Theodora Booysen.

We were all very surprised when Brother Andy Fourie of Cape Town turned up here one Saturday afternoon for a short visit. It was very nice having him with us and we only hope that he enjoyed his stay here as much as we enjoyed having him.

Our newly established Relief Society held its first Annual Bazaar on the 2nd November,

which, we are happy to report, was very successful and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who helped, not forgetting the Elders.

District Conference was held on the 14th October, when all those who attended gained much from the fine talks, and greatly enjoyed the beautiful solo by Sister Jean McGill at the morning session and the duets rendered by Mrs. Engh and Mrs. Connelly at the Evening Session.

Members and friends of Elder Gardner were very pleased to have him in our midst again when he paid us a final visit before leaving for the States. A Beach Party was held in his honour on the night of the 13th when a fine crowd turned up and a good time was had by all. Our prayers for a safe journey home and our very best wishes for the future go with Elder Gardner.

Members were very happy to see our much loved President and Sister Wright when they called in to see us when passing through East London on their way to Durban and are looking forward to their promised visit in January, when they will be able to spend more time with us.

PORT ELIZABETH DISTRICT AND BRANCH.
Reported by Enid Griffith.

On the 3rd of October the Priesthood planned a picnic which was held at Nord Hoek. The evening was spent in singing and playing games. The Priesthood group is to be congratulated on the good supper of hot dogs which was enjoyed by everyone. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time.

On the 28th of October Elder Burtenshaw and Elder Leavitt paid us a visit and we were happy to have them with us. We welcome Elder Wilson to P.E. and are very glad to have him with us. We hope that he will enjoy his labours here.

Brother R. K. F. Doller is back with us again after his long stay in hospital. We are sorry to relate that Sister Van de Walt is ill in the hospital again and we hope and pray that she will make a speedy recovery.

On the 11th of October we were favoured with a visit from President and Sister Wright and President Wilson, who were on their way to Durban. We were pleased to have them with us at our morning service. Conference was held on the 18th of October and had quite a good attendance. The speakers in the morning were Brother Trollip, Elder Clark, Elder Wilson, Brother Clarence Doller, and Elder Nichols. Their talks were most inspiring and we enjoyed their words of council and advice. Brother McHugh, Elder Clark, and Sister Myrtle Everton were the speakers in their evening. Everyone enjoyed the meetings very much.

SPRINGS BRANCH
Reported by Nola Troskie.

Brother Ronnie Louw is back in hospital and has had his second operation, but the doctors are very well pleased at the rapid progress he has been making. We are hoping to have him home with us for Xmas.

President Wright and President Ganter paid a surprise visit to the Branch during the month and brought with them a few recordings of the Cumorah Quartette. It was lovely to listen to their singing once again.

Sister Eileen Phillips has had an attack of Pneumonia, but is now well on the way to recovery. Sister Salome Campbell is back in the Kensington Sanitorium for another operation which we certainly hope will end the series of operations for her.

The District Presidency paid us a visit on the 11th of November and we all enjoyed the delightful talks that were given by the brethren.

The Relief Society held their monthly cake sale with very good results; also selling some of the things that the Sisters had made during the year. It was a very profitable day and the Sisters are well paid for their efforts of the past year.

The Primary meetings closed on Tuesday 20th for the year. The children had a lovely party and the little girls were very thrilled with the friendship aprons that they embroidered during the year.

Brother John Troskie is in bed with an injured eye, from having a game of cricket while at work. The specialist is still treating him and we don't exactly know yet what is wrong with the eye.

DURBAN BRANCH
Reported by Joyce Wahlburn

On the 31st of October the Masonic Hall was indeed a festive scene. Gaily decked with streamers and balloons and the traditional little figures of Halloween, it afforded an ideal background for the Carnival-Dance sponsored by the Elders of this Branch. For a first attempt of its kind in this Branch it was a great success and we wish to convey to the Elders our deep appreciation for their untiring efforts to make it so.

The weather on the 10th of November did not hinder our M.I.A. one bit from holding a Braaivleis at the home of Sister Joyce Wahlburn. The "Puppet Dancers," staged by Elders McKay and Ellsworth, were the highlights of the evening and brought forth shrieks of laughter from young and old alike.

Our congratulations go to Brother and Sister Tom Hancock on the occasion of the marriage of their youngest daughter, Valarie, to Mr. Calvin Steadman. President Young officiated at the ceremony which took place in the Salt Lake Temple on the 5th of November, 1951.

Visitors seem to outnumber our local members this month. Sister Kitty Smith, Sister Joy Smith and her twin daughters, and Sister Signe Smith visited us from the Ramah Branch. Sister Sawyer and Sister Schroeder, accompanied by Elder Ellsworth, called on us over a weekend. Others seeking a glimpse of our fair city were Elders Stockton, Lisonbee and Bigler who passed through here on their way home. Mr. George Morrison, formerly of Salisbury, has been attending our meetings and we hope to see more of him in the future.

Brother M. Brmmer has been released from the S.A.N.F. and has now returned to his home in Olifantsfontein.

A truly wonderful spiritual feast was had by each and every one of the many people who attended our District Conference held on Tuesday, the 13th of November. We were honoured to have with us as our speakers President and Sister Wright, President Wilson and Elders Bigler and Lisonbee.

Brother Tom Hancock and Elder Reynolds have been on our sick list this month, but we are happy to say that they are both much better now and back within our midst.

Christmas Call

The Christ-bells ring across the land
Calling the world to Christmas;
Calling the lame, the halt, the blind
Calling their hearts to Christmas;
The halt that stumble where rough paths are,
The blind that may not have seen the star,
Even the Star of Christmas.
His words are ringing across the land
Calling the world to Christmas;
Calling the lame, the halt, the blind,
Calling their minds to Christmas;
The lame who follow the road of pelf,
The halt whose dreams are laid on the shelf,
The blind whose eyes see only self,
Even at Christmas.
For the moment will come when the mind can feel,
And the heart can know . . and together they kneel,
For the love of Christ is waiting to heal
The world at Christmas!

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